CHAPTER NO. 373

SENATE BILL NO. 497

By Ford

Substituted for: House Bill No. 1716

By Lois DeBerry, Bowers, Henri Brooks

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 36, Chapter 5, relative to child support awards.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 36-5-101(e), is amended by adding the following as a new subdivision:

(4)(A) In addition to any other subtractions, calculations of net income under the guidelines shall take into consideration the support of any other children the obligor is legally responsible to provide. Children of the obligor who are not included in a decree of child support, but for whom the obligor is legally responsible to provide support and is supporting, shall be considered for the purposes of reducing the obligor's net income or in calculating the guideline amount. Such children may be considered by the court as a reason for deviation from the guidelines.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2003, the public welfare requiring it.

PASSED: May 29, 2003

JOHN S. WILDER SPEAKER OF THE SENATE

APPROVED this 19th day of June 2003

PHIL BREDESEN GOVERNOR